



FY 2005 QUARTERLY REPORT (3RD QUARTER)

Cooperative Agreement No. 119-A-00-00-00039-00

**KYRGYZSTAN
Civic Education On-Site Technical Assistance**

**Submitted to the
U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT
By IFES**

April 1 - June 30, 2005

I. PROGRAMMATIC ACTIVITIES

General

A. Secondary Civic Education Textbook Project in Kyrgyzstan

1. Civic Education Textbook Project

1,000 copies of textbooks of Part I in Russian were reprinted by Al Salam.

IFES submitted proposals for supplementary funding for the civic education textbook printing to the OSCE.

The section on Local Government and the Election Systems in Kyrgyzstan in the textbook required updating due to rapid political changes in the country. In relation to this, IFES met with the Chairman of the Association of local self-government institutions of Kyrgyzstan, Kurmanbek Dyikanbaev. He provided IFES with editing recommendations and also provided a sample charter of “aiyl okmotu” (local government) to use as appendixes in the textbook. It is, however, difficult to finalize the text yet. IFES decided to provide schools with a more updated version later in a form of a brochure or an insert in teachers’ newsletter. *General Election Systems* chapter will incorporate tasks from the Kyrgyz Elections chapter. IFES also continued working on a chapter on terrorism.

The Textbook team decided that the methodology section of the Teacher Guide for Part II of the textbook could be updated and enhanced. Therefore, the following activities were initiated before the end of the school year:

- Kyrgyz words underlined as unknown or unclear by student participants in skimming were either explained in the text or defined in the glossary.
- IFES staff conducted a final teacher training in Jayil rayon of Chui oblast for Russian schools. Out of 20 invited, 18 teachers attended the training.
- In Bishkek, staff visited Schools # 45 & 2 to evaluate possible methodologies to be incorporated into the Teacher Guide for Part II of the textbook.
- IFES staff conducted testing in 3 languages of students from IFES pilot schools. As a result, 948 students were tested throughout the country: Chuy oblast and Bishkek town - 140 students, Osh town - 167 students, Jalalabat oblast - 133 students, Batken oblast - 237 students, Issykul oblast - 145 students, Naryn town - 97 students, Talas oblast - 29 students.
- IFES also interviewed student’s parents that had read IFES citizenship book. Many parents have become interested in the textbook, and exercises therein encourage students to interview their parents and neighbors. One woman remarked that thanks to this course she learned her rights. She also said that her daughter now is more respectful of her parent’s role in the community. The parents in turn have a better understanding of the rights of their daughter as a citizen.
- IFES staff visited several schools around Bishkek to observe class dynamics.

- Questionnaires were sent to trainers in regions in order to encourage them to discuss with teachers problems that they faced while teaching the course this year. The regional education administration bodies will assist the trainers.
- IFES also conducted interviews with teachers who use the textbook. They recommended further elaboration of the methods and expressed interest in the exchange of experiences with their colleagues.
- IFES used teachers' responses to improve the methodology. Questionnaires recommended developing Questions and Answers for the Teacher Guide.
- The methodology section of the University CD-Rom was reviewed as well.

During this quarter, IFES worked on the translation of the Kyrgyz text into Tajik as spoken in Murghab rayon, to develop a text for Tajik-speaking minorities in Kyrgyzstan. IFES met with the Deputy Ambassador of Tajik Republic who agreed to assist in obtaining the permission to travel to Murghab for organizing and conducting teacher trainings. Such assistance became necessary since Tajikistan introduced visa requirements for Kyrgyz citizens starting from Jan 1, 2005.

IFES sought possible cooperation on small projects with the Kyrgyz Academy of Education and the Ministry of Education.

All chapters of Part II of the textbook have gone through final edits, except for the "Elections" and "Global Challenges" chapters. Our consultant revised the latest versions of "Global challenges" chapter. The Russian version has been updated in accordance with the English text.

IFES traveled to Kara-Balta city to distribute Russian student books to the participants of teacher trainings held on May 20-22. 550 student books have been distributed to 18 schools.

2. Teacher Training and Education

On May 21-23, IFES held the Civic Education Teacher Trainings in Uzbek language in Karasu rayon of Osh oblast. 23 participants from all 23 schools as per plan attended the training.

The Kut Bilim Sabak Newsletter

IFES prepared a page for the April edition of "Kutbilim Sabak" – this newsletter is distributed to all schools in the Republic.

This May issue included:

1. "Editor's notes"
2. An article by our trainer Aygerim Cholponova about teaching problems in classes.
3. An article about legislative authorities in the different countries.
4. An article written by Christian Knust about the OSCE contribution to IFES project.

IFES prepared monthly insert for the May issue of the newsletter. It included the history of our projects, information on IFES civic education activities (SAC, SLGD, Summer Camps, etc.) and

The Civic Education Study Tour for high level officials from four Central Asian countries to Romania took place on May 21 – 31.

We prepared our monthly insert for the nation-wide teachers' journal. This explained the history of the civic education textbook and a comprehensive description of our staff and their roles. We also gave a full description of other civic education activities of IFES: the SAC, the SLGD and the summer camps.

This had been requested by many of our teachers who want to better understand the people behind IFES.

IFES staff attended the Soros Foundation's national forum on "Education as a strategic resource of the society and state: current situation." Issues discussed included benchmarks for educational success, the politicization of education, and the role of education in enhancing civic consciousness.

B. Extracurricular Student Activities

1. Student Action Committee

On May 7-8, IFES offered trainings for 40 participants (30 9th -10th graders and 10 teachers) on how to organize successful community development projects and improve their neighborhoods. The participants learned that:

- SAC is about activism, not simply organization. It is also an opportunity for personal development;
- Nothing but a will to solve community problems is required to establish a Student Action Committee; it need not be expensive or involve significant funding.
- There is a need to plan and conduct activities in three directions at the same time - informational provision, publicity and fundraising, when implementing community development projects,

SAC Activities

Bishkek – May 7-8, training for 40 participants (30 students, 10 teachers);

Osh – SAC training for 11 teachers and 34 students;

Round-table and SAC training sessions funded by CAIP for 12 students and 4 teachers;

Jelalabad – May 21-22, SAC training for 26 students and 9 teachers from 9 Jelalabad schools and 6 schools from other regions.

IFES held another SAC training for 11 teachers and 34 students in Osh.

A round-table funded by CAIP was also organized for SACs leaders in Osh. 12 students and 4 teachers participated. Future projects were discussed and training sessions were conducted in the course of the round-table.

On May 21-22, IFES arranged a SAC event in Jalalabad. Students and teachers from 9 Jalalabad schools and 6 schools from other regions attended the training. The main goal of the training was to provide

participants with knowledge and skills so that they could initiate community development projects and, thus, be able to improve the area of their residence. A total of 35 students and teachers, 26 and 9 respectively, participated in the trainings

2. SLGD

A list of local officials and schools is being compiled for the southern part of the country. IFES staff plans to meet with local officials during its visit to Osh.

12 high school students of senior grades and the local officials of Talas province participated in a one-day activity. Students represented secondary schools of Kok-Oi village and Talas city. They spent one day amidst oblast administration officials working hand in hand with them in

order to understand what local government does for the residents of their province in order to improve citizen livelihoods.

C. Summer Camps

A program for regional summer camp and concept paper have been developed and sent to the participating countries, Kazakhstan and Tajikistan. The theme of this year's summer camps will be political leadership and responsibility in the context of different democratic systems.

IFES met with UNDP representatives and discussed the possibility of the UNDP providing co-funding for two additional domestic summer camps.

The regional summer camp planning meeting took place on May 12-13 in Bishkek.

During the week of May 9-13, IFES distributed application forms to students. IFES also sent Summer Camp Application Forms to NDI and Civil Society Support Centers in the regions of the republic. IFES reached out to 21 regions of the Kyrgyz Republic during May. IFES also collected modules and other materials for the program of future regional summer camp in Kazakhstan.

IV. PERFORMANCE MONITORING

Performance Indicator	Indicator Definition & Unit of Measure	Data Source	Data for Q3 FY05
Curriculum Development			
# of New Students Participating in the Civic Education Course	Student Participation and Reach of the Textbook and New Teaching Methodologies	Participating Schools	2,900
Teacher Training			
# of Teachers participated in trainings	Teacher participation, improvement of teaching methodologies	IFES	78
Student Action Committees			
#Students Participated in SAC trainings (# of teachers)	Student Participation and Reach of Extracurricular Civic Education Activities	IFES	65 (19)

Testing of Students of IFES Pilot Schools			
# of Students tested	Student Participation and Reach of the Textbook and New Teaching Methodologies	IFES	948 (Chuy oblast and Bishkek - 140 Osh – 167; Jalalabat oblast – 133; Batken oblast – 237; Issykul oblast – 145; Naryn – 97; Talas oblast – 29)
Democracy Summer Camps			
# of Students Applying for Summer Camps (# of Participants)	Student Participation, Awareness, and Interest in Extracurricular Civic Education Activities	IFES	375
% of Students with a Better Understanding of Democratic Values	Increased Understanding of the Rights and Responsibilities of Citizens Who Value Democracy	IFES	n/a for Quarter 3
% of Students Expressing Interest in Civic Activism	Impact Extracurricular Civic Education Activities on Behavior	IFES	n/a for Quarter 3
Information Resources			
# of Hits on the Website	Awareness and Interest in IFES Resources	IFES	13,177